

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please amend the Abstract on page 41 as follows:

~~In~~A method of inspecting an inspection target surface by~~comprises~~: irradiating an irradiation light having a predetermined pattern on the inspection target surface~~;~~ imaging the surface irradiated with the irradiation light~~;~~ and inspecting the inspection target surface based on an obtained image of the inspection target surface~~;~~ ~~the~~ ~~The~~ irradiation light irradiated from an irradiation face has a mesh-like pattern including meshes of a same shape~~;~~ ~~each~~Each mesh ~~having~~has an irradiation area smaller than a non-irradiation area in a plane normal to the optical axis. The inspection target surface is inspected~~;~~ based on lightness/darkness information of an image area in the obtained image corresponding to a non-irradiated area in the inspection target surface. ~~And, a~~A light point having intermediate brightness and formed in a dark face formed within the mesh is extracted as a defect candidate.